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*Double Portrait**P. P. Rubens (1577-1640)*

A Rubens Portrait

THE portrait reproduced above has been kindly lent to the Museum by Mrs. Robert D. Evans. It is a superb example of Rubens' powers at their full maturity. Absorbing in the interest of its content and through its power of presentation, it also evidences Rubens' technical mastery of his art. The quality of the gesso, or plaster ground, with which the panel is coated, is made use of to affect the tone of the darks, which to this end are kept translucent, only the lights being loaded. Rubens was criticised for leaving his lights too high, but well knew that they would darken into scale with time, as this splendid panel demonstrates. They have altered in tone quality only to enrich the total effect. In the application of amber and even of lapis lazuli in the surface of his panels, Rubens is thought to have been influenced by the science of his day.

The Fogg Museum

John Ruskin
Charles Eliot Norton

THE exhibition of drawings, sketches, and etchings by John Ruskin, now open at the Fogg Museum in memory of Charles Eliot Norton, illustrates a friendship of more than forty years between Mr. Ruskin and Professor Norton. A catalogue of the exhibition mentions, beside etchings, examples in both pencil, wash, and water color. Some of Ruskin's remarkable architectural drawings are shown, together with landscape studies and sketches.

Sunday Docent Service

FRIENDS of the Museum have kindly contributed to continue and extend Docent service in the galleries on Sunday afternoons. Informal gallery talks on Sundays have already been given experimentally on two occasions: in January, February, and March, 1908, and during the

closing weeks in the old building, April, 1909. Much interest was manifested by the auditors, and it is now planned to combine the talks with guidance through the rooms. In certain of the departments, to be announced by a placard in the entrance hall, representatives of the Museum will be in attendance as Docents from 2 o'clock to the closing hour, to meet visitors and, at hours stated in the placard, to give short talks upon objects shown. The Docents will wear a badge bearing the seal of the Museum and their title. It is thought desirable not to extend the service to the whole Museum on any one Sunday, in order that there may at all times remain departments in which visitors will be wholly left to themselves. Under the Secretary of the Museum, the service will be in charge of Assistant Professor Henry L. Seaver of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.